

Applicant: Falone et al.
Application No.: 10/067,594

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1-31, without prejudice, and add new claims 32-51. A complete listing of the claims follows.

✓ Claims 1-31 cancelled.

Claim 32 (New): A vibration absorbing grip cover for a handle of an implement, comprising:

a sleeve having an upper end and a lower end, said upper end being open to permit a portion of the handle of the implement to extend therethrough, wherein said sleeve is a multi-layer laminate comprising:

an inner layer of elastomeric vibration absorbing material which is free of voids therein;

an elastomeric layer which includes a fiberglass material therein and that is disposed on the inner layer, wherein the fiberglass material distributes vibration to facilitate vibration dampening;

an outermost elastomeric layer having a pliable outer surface that facilitates a user gripping the sleeve during use of the implement, and

an outwardly extending peripheral knob portion forms the lower end of the sleeve.

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Claim 33 (New): The grip cover of claim 32, wherein an inner surface of said lower end of said sleeve is recessed having a contour conforming to an outer surface of said knob portion adapted to be disposed over a knob at the end of the implement handle.

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Claim 34 (New): The grip cover of claim 33, in combination with a baseball bat having a knob at one of its ends, and said cover being fitted over said baseball bat with said knob of said bat disposed in said knob of said cover.

Claim 35 (New): The grip cover of claim 32, wherein the thickness of said sleeve at said lower end is greater than the thickness of said sleeve at the remaining portions of said sleeve.

Claim 36 (New): The grip cover of claim 35, in combination with an implement having a handle, said handle terminating in an end which is free of any knob, and said sleeve being mounted over said handle.

Claim 37 (New): The grip cover of claim 36, wherein said implement is an article of athletic equipment.

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Claim 38 (New): The grip cover of claim 32, including a further inner layer made from force dissipating stiffening material.

Claim 39 (New): The grip cover of claim 38, wherein said fiberglass material is a layer in open mesh form.

Claim 40 (New): The grip cover of claim 38, wherein said outer gripping layer is made of vibration absorbing material.

Claim 41 (New): The grip cover of claim 32, wherein said sleeve tapers inwardly from said upper end to said lower end at the location of said knob.

Claim 42 (New) The grip cover of claim 32, wherein the fiberglass material forms an imperforate sheet that is disposed within the elastomeric layer.

Claim 43 (New) The grip cover of claim 32, wherein the fiberglass material forms a plurality of individual strips that are substantially parallel to each other, the plurality of individual strips are disposed within the elastomeric layer.

Claim 44 (New) The grip cover of claim 43, wherein the plurality of individual strips are generally equally sized.

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Claim 45 (New) The grip cover of claim 32, wherein the fiberglass material forms an open mesh sheet.

Claim 46 (New) The cover of claim 32, wherein the fiberglass material forms a plurality of individual strips of different sizes that are substantially parallel to each other, the plurality of individual strips are disposed within the elastomeric layer.

Claim 47 (New): A vibration absorbing material, comprising:
an inner layer formed by an elastomer that is substantially free of voids therein;

an elastomeric layer which includes a fiberglass material therein and that is disposed on the inner layer, the fiberglass material comprising a plurality of individual strips of fiberglass of different sizes, wherein the fiberglass material distributes vibration to facilitate vibration dampening, the elastomeric layer being substantially free of voids therein;

an outermost layer that is disposed on the elastomeric layer, the outermost layer being formed by an elastomer that is substantially free of voids.

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Claim 48 (New) The material of claim 47 wherein the outermost layer and the elastomeric layer are generally of equal thickness.

Claim 49 (New): A vibration absorbing material comprising:

an inner layer formed by an elastomer;

an elastomeric layer which includes a fiberglass material therein and that is disposed on the inner layer, the fiberglass material comprising a plurality of individual strips of fiberglass of generally equal sizes, wherein the fiberglass material distributes vibration to facilitate vibration dampening, the plurality of individual fiberglass strips being generally parallel to each other;

an outermost layer that is disposed on the elastomeric layer and is substantially free of voids therein.

Claim 50 (New) The material of claim 49 wherein the outermost layer and the elastomeric layer are generally of equal thickness.

Claim 51 (New): A vibration absorbing material, comprising:

an inner layer formed by an elastomer;

an elastomeric layer which includes a fiberglass material therein and that is disposed on the inner layer, wherein the fiberglass material distributes vibration to

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2 facilitate vibration dampening, the elastomeric layer being substantially free of voids therein;

an outermost layer that is disposed on the elastomeric layer, the outermost layer being formed by an elastomer.
